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San Diego River Conservancy Appoints Deborah Jayne As Executive Officer

California Resources Secretary Mike Chrisman and the Governing Board of the San Diego River Conservancy today announced the appointment of Deborah Jayne, as Executive Officer of the state conservancy.

"Deborah has been working as an advocate to protect the environment for many years and she will continue to be an asset to the Schwarzenegger Administration," said Secretary Chrisman. "I look forward to her help in developing partnerships and implementing a bold environmental plan for the San Diego River."

"I have made it my personal mission to restore the San Diego River and create a park stretching from its headwaters in Julian all the way to the Pacific Ocean," said Mayor Dick Murphy, Chair of the Governing Board. "Ms. Jayne's demonstrated leadership in water quality and watershed protection equips her to help the conservancy achieve those goals."

Jayne currently serves as a senior program manager at the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, California Environmental Protection Agency, where she has worked for the State of California for the past sixteen years. Jayne is a resident of Chula Vista.

At the San Diego River Conservancy, Jayne will provide leadership and expertise on San Diego regional issues, work in partnership with private and public officials and state and local government agencies and operations, facilitate negotiations of the governing board and property owners related to dedications and/or purchase of land or conservation easements, and apply for grant funds that may be available from private foundations and federal grant programs.

To promote the conservation of the state's land resources, the state Legislature has created seven state conservancies that acquire and protect undeveloped lands in specific regions of the state. The San Diego River Conservancy was created in the Resources Agency by state legislation sponsored by Assemblymember Christine Kehoe, in 2002, to acquire and manage public lands along the San Diego River. The state conservancy, the first in San Diego County, will provide recreational opportunities, open space, wildlife habitat and species protection, wetland protection and restoration, and protection and maintenance of the quality of the waters in the San Diego River, the protection of land and natural resources, as well as economic resources, of the area. Governed by an appointed board of nine voting and two non-voting members, it is a state agency subject to the rules of the State of California.

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